

The dual goals of those programs are to recover four endangered fish species and to ensure that local citizens can continue to use the rivers for their economic, social and cultural needs. Unlike much of the Endangered Species Act's activities, these programs have performance measures and benchmarks to determine recovery progress. As a result, the programs enjoy broad support among various users.

This reauthorization will allow for the last installment of the needed construction projects to enhance fish recovery. I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill. I applaud Mrs. CUBIN as the sponsor of the House companion measure.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Upper Colorado and San Juan endangered fish recovery programs are often cited as examples of good agency performance under the Endangered Species Act. The Department of the Interior has worked closely with State agencies, water users, and environmentalists to implement these fish recovery programs.

The programs are tightly managed and effective. S. 1578 will increase the cost ceiling for these important activities and will ensure the programs will continue without interruption. Madam Speaker, we strongly support the passage of S. 1578.

Mrs. CUBIN. Madam Speaker, I am the lead sponsor of H.R. 3153, the identical House measure to S.1578 under consideration today. This bill is quite simple. It will reauthorize the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basin endangered fish recovery programs for 2 additional years. This action is necessary to complete the capital construction of these two successful efforts.

The program's existing authorization is set to expire in fiscal year 2008. However, construction costs have increased faster than the consumer price index over the past several years due to factors such as an improved economy and increased energy costs.

This measure's two-year extension of the programs' existing authorization will allow the Bureau of Reclamation to continue providing cost-sharing for these programs. More specifically, S.1578 would authorize the Bureau to expend an additional \$15 million in cost-sharing funds for the Upper Basin programs, while recognizing an additional \$11 million in non-federal cost-sharing.

It is important to note that this bill maintains both a cap on expenditures and a sunset provision on the time frame for those expenditures, as intended in the original authorization.

I would also like to draw attention to the bipartisan support this bill has garnered. The House bill, H.R. 3153, was introduced with 12 original cosponsors, comprised of the entire Utah and New Mexico delegations and all but one of the Colorado delegation—all of the states affected by these two programs.

I have been a strong supporter of these programs because they effectively balance the goals of continued water supply and usage with the recovery efforts of four endangered fish populations.

It is these kind of on-the-ground programs that Congress should be encouraging to ensure endangered species recovery efforts are locally supported and results-driven.

Passage of this bill represents Congress' acknowledgment that locally-driven programs with real recovery goals is the best approach toward species conservation.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, and to thank Chairman POMBO and Ranking Member RAHALL for making it possible for the House to consider it today.

This bill, cosponsored by both of Colorado's Senators, will reauthorize and expand the authority of the Bureau of Reclamation to undertake capital projects for the Recovery Implementation Program for Endangered Fish Species in the Upper Colorado River Basin and the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program.

I am a cosponsor of the companion bill, H.R. 3153, which was approved by the Resources Committee last year and which is also cosponsored by my Colorado colleagues, Representatives DEGETTE, SALAZAR, and BEAUPREZ.

The Upper Colorado and San Juan recovery programs were established in 1988 and 1992, respectively, through broad-based cooperative agreements that provide for the active participation of the States of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming; the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; the Bureau of Reclamation; the National Park Service; the Western Area Power Administration; the Bureau of Land Management; the Bureau of Indian Affairs; the Jicarilla Apache Nation; the Navajo Nation; the Southern Ute Tribe; the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe; the Colorado River Energy Distributors Association; water development interests; and several environmental organizations.

These successful programs are meeting their dual objectives of recovering 4 endangered fish species—the Colorado pikeminnow, the humpback chub, the razorback sucker, and the bonytail chub—while allowing needed water development to proceed in compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Key parts of the programs are construction of fish hatcheries, fish screens, and fish passage structures as well as habitat restoration and management.

So far, these programs have provided ESA compliance for over 800 water projects that provide more than 2.5 million acre-feet of water per year.

However, because of increased construction and property acquisition costs, the amounts authorized to be appropriated for the program are no longer adequate to fulfill the program goals. In addition, the authority for capital construction projects is scheduled to terminate in 2008, even though projects currently underway cannot be completed by the program termination date.

To respond to those needs, this bill will extend the authorization through 2010, increase the amount authorized for the Federal share of project costs, and raise the limitation on the total costs of projects.

The Bureau of Reclamation has informed us that prompt action on the legislation is necessary if they are to take advantage of a window of opportunity to begin work on recovery-program projects before spring runoff and flash floods make it necessary to wait until next year.

I think we should not lose precious time. So, I am glad that the House is considering this bill today and I urge its approval.

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, I speak today in support of the Upper Colorado River and San Juan River Basin Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Reauthorization Act of 2005. These important programs are helping us to recover four endangered fish species along the Colorado and San Juan Rivers.

It is essential to these western Colorado water communities that Congress reauthorize the program so we can continue with recovery efforts. I would also like to emphasize that both the Upper Colorado River and the San Juan River are vital water supplies to western Colorado. Over 1,000 water projects are reliant upon the waters in these rivers and tributaries. You can imagine the difficulty of trying to coordinate species recovery with the needs of so many water projects. But that is exactly what we have been able to do and I am proud of their work.

This program can serve as a national model for public and private partnerships for endangered species recovery. It allows water development in accordance to the State and Federal laws to continue while the partners work to recover the endangered fish species. As an individual water user I appreciate how this program does not pass the depletion burdens onto individual water projects and users. It is also very impressive that these partners have been able to work towards species recovery without a single lawsuit filed under the Endangered Species Act.

While water wars are historic throughout the West, this cooperative partnership among the affected parties is truly historic. This is a good bill and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, we yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1578.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO DESIGNATE THE PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON BIRTHPLACE HOME IN HOPE, ARKANSAS, AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4192) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to designate the President William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home in Hope, Arkansas, as a National Historic Site and unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4192

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON BIRTHPLACE HOME NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE.

(a) **ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY; ESTABLISHMENT OF HISTORIC SITE.**—Should the Secretary of the Interior acquire, by donation only from the Clinton Birthplace Foundation, Inc., fee simple, unencumbered title to the William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home site located at 117 South Hervey Street, Hope, Arkansas, 71801, and to any personal property related to that site, the Secretary shall designate the William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home site as a National Historic Site and unit of the National Park System, to be known as the “President William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home National Historic Site”.

(b) **APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAWS.**—The Secretary shall administer the President William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home National Historic Site in accordance with the laws generally applicable to national historic sites, including the Act entitled “An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes”, approved August 25, 1916 (16 U.S.C. 1–4), and the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the preservation of historic American sites, buildings, objects and antiquities of national significance, and for other purposes”, approved August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461 et seq.).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, H.R. 4192 was introduced by my colleague from Arkansas Mr. ROSS. Although former President Clinton lived in several other homes during his childhood, this home in Hope, Arkansas, is the one most closely identified with his youth and early development.

Former President Clinton's upbringing in Hope played a prominent role in his political campaigns. He summed up his sense of the community with the well-known phrase, “I still believe in a place called Hope.”

Madam Speaker, inclusion of this site within the National Park System is consistent with numerous Presidential sites previously authorized, including that of the Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home in 2002.

Madam Speaker, I would also note that H.R. 4192 is supported by the en-

tire Arkansas congressional delegation, and also has the support of State and local officials. We support H.R. 4192 and urge the adoption of this legislation by the House today.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE).

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to this bill. I do not object to the bill on its merits, and when I first knew that the bill was coming up, it was not a problem.

However, upon reading various articles, I do have concerns, and my constituents have concerns. I have heard from several of them. Let me make it clear that my opposition is not partisan, it is not a Republican, it is not a Democratic issue.

Regardless of your personal view of him, Mr. Clinton served this country as President for 8 years and should have his birthplace properly designated as a place in American history. However, before this Congress moves to honor the former President, I think that he has some explaining to do.

You know, most Americans are very outraged over the Dubai Ports deal with the United States, and I am even more outraged when I hear that he may have consulted with the Crown Sheik of Dubai on this deal. So let me get this straight. Not only a U.S. citizen, but also a former President gives advice.

POINT OF ORDER

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I make a point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman will state her point of order.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I would state that the gentlewoman from Florida should confine her comments to the subject matter of the bill before us.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman is correct that debate should be confined to the pending subject. However, the Chair currently perceives a nexus between the substance of the bill and the gentlewoman's remarks.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, how do Republicans or Democrats explain this to our constituents? How do we possibly show that we are serious about protecting the United States from terrorist nations when we are proceeding to possibly honor the birthplace of someone who may have brokered this deal?

Madam Speaker, I cannot support this bill at this time until Mr. Clinton explains his role in the Dubai Ports deal. Reportedly Mr. Clinton has accepted nearly \$1 million from the UAE for strategic advice. He is not a registered foreign agent. He also tried to get his former press secretary signed as a spokesman for the UAE. When they did not hire him, Mr. Clinton turned

around and spoke against the port deal, and yet there was a reported million dollars here.

Madam Speaker, I think we need to take some time and review this very, very carefully.

POINT OF ORDER.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I make a point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman will state her point of order.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, the gentlewoman has strayed again from the subject matter of the bill before us. I would ask that she confine her remarks to the subject matter of the bill before us at this time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The rules do require that the gentlewoman consistently maintain a nexus to the substance of the bill.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, the nexus to the bill is whether or not this is the time to proceed with this bill.

And so that individuals have an opportunity actually to respond, I am going ask for a recorded vote. It is directly related to the bill. It is directly related to the security of our Nation.

□ 1045

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. ROSS).

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, as the sponsor of this legislation, I rise in support of H.R. 4192, a bill to designate the William Jefferson Clinton birthplace home located in my hometown of Hope, Arkansas, as a national historic site and unit of the National Park System.

First, I would like to thank Chairman POMBO, Chairman SAXTON and Ranking Member RAHALL and Ranking Member CHRISTENSEN for their support and their assistance in moving this bill from the Resources Committee in a bipartisan manner to the floor of the United States House of Representatives.

Madam Speaker, what we have just witnessed from the gentlewoman from Florida is an example of the kind of partisan bickering that the people back home are sick and tired of. This is not a Democrat or Republican issue. This is about America, and it is about our Nation's history.

Madam Speaker, what the gentlewoman from Florida obviously does not get is the fact that this is about history. We have only had 42 Presidents in the history of this Nation; and I believe all of them, Democrat and Republican alike, if their birthplace home is still standing, it should be an historic site because it is a part of history.

I am pleased to have the entire Arkansas congressional delegation supporting this bill in a bipartisan manner including Congressman BOOZMAN from Arkansas, Congressman BERRY from Arkansas, Congressman SNYDER from Arkansas; and I am proud that this bill was passed out of the Resources Committee and placed on the suspension

calendar by our leaders in both parties that recognized it for what it is, about history, not about politics. So I am deeply, deeply saddened that one Member out of 435 has chosen to try to divide us once again by taking a history lesson and turning it into a partisan ball game.

In my mind and in the minds of my colleagues from Arkansas there is no doubt this important property in Hope, Arkansas deserves Federal recognition. I believe the preservation of properties of historical significance is a necessary and important function of our government. The designation as a national historic site and unit of the National Park System will open the doors for further economic opportunities and prosperity for the city of Hope and all of southwest Arkansas. This site will celebrate, it will celebrate the history and educate thousands of visitors on the early life of our 42nd President of the United States of America, President William Jefferson Clinton, who came into this world on August 19, 1946, as William Jefferson Blythe, III, in Hope, Arkansas, just 3 months after his father tragically died in a car accident.

I mentioned that this has bipartisan support, Madam Speaker. This is about economic development. It is about tourism. It is about history. It is about maintaining and protecting and preserving an historic site, the birthplace home of the 42nd President of the United States of America.

Our Republican Governor in Arkansas gets it. And I want to thank him for that, and I want to share with my colleagues and make a part of the RECORD a letter I received dated yesterday from our Republican Governor, Mike Huckabee who, too, grew up in Hope, Arkansas.

It says: "Dear Congressman Ross: Thank you for your efforts to honor and recognize the birthplace of our 42nd President, William Jefferson Clinton, by naming his birthplace in Hope, Arkansas a national historic site. As is customary in this country to honor our former Presidents with libraries and other accolades, I cannot think of a better tribute to President Clinton than this recognition. The lasting impact this will have for the State and country is immeasurable. Not only would it provide future generations an educational look into our 42nd President and the times he lived in, but it will provide the region of our State, and specifically my native home of Hope, Arkansas, added economic opportunity and prosperity.

"H.R. 4192 is an important piece of legislation for not only the reasons mentioned above, but also for the preservation and protection of this historical site which is currently reliant upon private donations. President Clinton will forever be a true Arkansan, and this piece of legislation will allow not only Arkansas but the country the ability to properly honor him and his service.

"Again, thank you for your work on this legislation. I look forward to

working with you to see its passage out of Congress this year.

"Sincerely yours, Mike Huckabee, Governor of the State of Arkansas."

Might I add, a Republican Governor, who like myself, grew up in Hope, Arkansas.

Finally, Madam Speaker, I would like to at least read a part of a letter from Mack McLarty who was President Clinton's first White House Chief of Staff and someone who commanded respect from both sides of the aisle during those early Clinton years.

"Dear Mike: I'm writing today in support of H.R. 4192, your bill authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to designate President William Jefferson Clinton's birthplace home in Hope, Arkansas as a national historic site and unit of the National Park System. This step would be a fitting recognition of President Clinton's birthplace home in our Nation's Presidential history and ensure the preservation of the site for future generations. This site will celebrate history and educate thousands of visitors and perhaps, most importantly, it will bring jobs and economic development opportunities to southwest Arkansas.

"As you know, I was born and raised in Hope myself. My lifelong friendship with President Clinton dates back to Miss Mary's kindergarten. Not surprisingly, then, my attachment to 117 South Hervey Street is personal and heartfelt, but, more than that, I believe the Clinton birthplace stands for something larger than itself."

Mack McLarty goes on to write that, "As I wrote some years ago in an essay for the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, I believe that white frame house is worthy of more than a nod of nostalgia because the values President Clinton learned there and in Hope formed the core of his political philosophy.

"In 1946 when President Clinton and I were born, Hope was the essence of small-town America. Family and faith were at the center of people's lives. Commitment to work was expected. From the schools to the churches, local businesses and charities, knowing and caring for one another was part of daily life. And as our friend, Joe Purvis, later wrote, 'It bred a sense of responsibility, because if you misbehaved, your mama knew about it before you got home.'"

Mack McLarty continues in his letter, "For a small boy growing up in that era, Hope lived up to its name. We had won the war. The economy was booming. The American Dream was alive. People had confidence in a future they believed was theirs to shape. It was a time of infectious optimism and seemingly limitless potential.

"I do not mean to suggest that our hometown was perfect. We never thought it was even then. Hope was segregated like the rest of the South. It had its share of human frailty and vice, but kids were taught, growing up, to respect the dignity of each indi-

vidual. There was a genuine sense of community in Hope that crossed income lines and, in many ways, race as well."

Mack McLarty continues in his letter in support of this bill, "The young Bill Clinton, who was then Billy Blythe, understood this perhaps better than most. His father had died before he was born. His mother, determined to provide for her son, was in nurse anesthetist school in New Orleans, a brave step in an era when single mothers and working women were uncommon. Young Billy was raised those first few years primarily by his grandparents who owned a grocery on North Hazel Street across from Rose Hill Cemetery."

I could continue, Madam Speaker, but there are others who want to speak in support of this bill on both sides of the aisle, and I applaud them and thank them for helping me restore and maintain and preserve this piece of history, as we should do for all 42 former Presidents, Democrat and Republican alike.

STATE OF ARKANSAS,
STATE CAPITOL BUILDING,
Little Rock, AR, March 7, 2006.

Hon. MIKE ROSS,
House of Representatives, Cannon House Office
Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ROSS: Thank you for your efforts to honor and recognize the birthplace of our 42nd President, William Jefferson Clinton, by naming his birthplace home in Hope, Arkansas a National Historic Site. As is customary in this country to honor our former Presidents with libraries and other accolades, I can not think of a better tribute to President Clinton than this recognition. The lasting impact this will have for the state and country is immeasurable. Not only will it provide future generations an educational look into our 42nd President and the times he lived in, but it will provide this region of our state and specifically my native home of Hope added economic opportunity and prosperity.

H.R. 4192 is an important piece of legislation for not only the reasons mentioned above, but also for the preservation and protection of this historical site, which is currently reliant upon private donations. President Clinton will forever be a true Arkansan and this piece of legislation will allow not only Arkansas but the country the ability to properly honor him and his service.

Again thank you for your work on this legislation and I look forward to working with you to see its passage out of Congress this year.

Sincerely yours,

MIKE HUCKABEE,
Governor.

—
Little Rock, AR, March 7, 2006.

Hon. MIKE ROSS,
House of Representatives, Cannon House Office
Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MIKE: I'm writing today in support of H.R. 4192, your bill authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to designate President William Jefferson Clinton's birthplace home in Hope, Arkansas, as a National Historic Site and unit of the National Park System. This step would be a fitting recognition of President Clinton's birthplace home in our nation's presidential history—and ensure the preservation of the site for future generations. This site will celebrate history and educate thousands of visitors, and perhaps

most importantly, it will bring jobs, and economic development opportunities to southwest Arkansas.

As you know, I was born and raised in Hope myself; my lifelong friendship with President Clinton dates back to Miss Mary's kindergarten. Not surprisingly, then, my attachment to 117 South Hervey Street is personal and heartfelt; but, more than that, I believe the Clinton birthplace stands for something larger than itself.

As I wrote some years ago in an essay for the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, I believe that white frame house is worthy of more than a nod of nostalgia, because the values President Clinton learned there and in Hope formed the core of his political philosophy.

In 1946, when President Clinton and I were born, Hope was the essence of small-town America. Family and faith were at the center of people's lives. Commitment to work was expected. From the schools to the churches, local businesses and charities, knowing and caring for one another was part of daily life. And as our friend Joe Purvis later wrote, "It bred a sense of responsibility, because if you misbehaved your mama knew about it before you got home."

For a small boy growing up in that era, Hope lived up to its name. We had won the war. The economy was booming. The American Dream was alive. People had confidence in a future they believed was theirs to shape. It was a time of infectious optimism and seemingly limitless potential.

I don't mean to suggest that our hometown was perfect. We never thought it was, even then. Hope was segregated, like the rest of the South. It had its share of human frailty and vice. But kids were taught, growing up, to respect the dignity of each individual. There was a genuine sense of community in Hope, that crossed income lines and, in many ways, race as well.

The young Bill Clinton, who was then Billy Blythe, understood this perhaps better than most. His father had died before he was born. His mother, determined to provide for her son, was in nurse-anesthetist school in New Orleans—a brave step in an era when single mothers, and working women, were uncommon. Young Billy was raised those first few years primarily by his grandparents, who owned a grocery on North Hazel Street, across from Rose Hill Cemetery.

That grocery store was one of the most integrated enterprises in Hope. It was a place where every customer, black or white, was treated kindly; where credit was given freely on the basis of trust; where equality was a way of life and not just an aspiration. It was also a place that catered to lower- and lower-middle income families. Young Billy saw parents working hard to make ends meet for their children.

His exposure, early on, to human effort, and to the open hearts and minds of his grandparents, helped sharpen Bill Clinton's ability to empathize and understand real people's dreams and struggles. Much of what he has stood for, first as governor and then as president—whether his national race initiative, his emphasis on service, or his efforts to expand the middle class—reflected his belief that we need to band together, that by lifting others we also raise ourselves.

The importance of community was just one of the lessons Bill Clinton took to heart on South Hervey Street. His grandparents taught him to count and read, nurturing a commitment to education he carried throughout his life. And his mother taught him, by her own powerful example, to persevere in the face of adversity. As one friend said, Virginia Kelley was like a rubber ball: "The harder life put her down, the higher she bounced. She didn't know what the word quit meant."

I'll always remember the October afternoon in 1991, when Bill Clinton declared from the Old State House steps his candidacy for President. "Together we can make America great again," he said, "and build a community of hope that will inspire the world."

A community of hope—a community of Hope—inspired my childhood friend with the extraordinary confidence, courage, commitment and vision to lead our country. And when I look at 117 South Hervey Street, most remarkable for its simplicity, I am proud to say I hail from a place where a boy could grow up to be president; a place where loving families, devoted teachers, friendly and supportive neighbors gave children like Billy Blythe and me the wings to pursue our dreams.

I hope the U.S. House of Representatives will pass H.R. 4192. Thank you for your leadership on this issue, and your service to our state and our country.

Personally,

MACK McLARTY.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN).

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman ROSS and Chairman POMBO. Congressman ROSS for introducing the bill, and then Chairman POMBO for getting it to the floor.

I rise in strong support of this bill. The reason that I do, before I was elected to Congress I had never been to Washington, D.C., and I came up here, I can still remember the excitement of seeing all the structures and things; and then now, as my constituents come up, taking them around, showing them the different areas, the different things of history that we preserved.

Preserving Presidential birthplaces is very, very important. It is something that we need to do. We need to do a much better job, I think, in this country of preserving structures like this in general that are so important, that tell the story of America.

One of the things that I really enjoy doing is going out to schools and I visit with the kids. I was on the school board for 7 years, and I sit down and visit with them, and one of the main reasons I am there is I want them to understand that a guy like me that was on the school board, had a small business, was on the school board, grew up very much like they did, in western Arkansas, that the sky is the limit, that they can work hard and basically achieve anything they want.

Bill Clinton is truly an example of that. And certainly as they go through the structure that we are trying to preserve, I think it really shows that a young guy that grew up as much of America is growing up, maybe at some times maybe a little bit worse than much of America is growing up, but growing up in humble circumstances, having a dream, able to achieve the governorship of Arkansas, and then go on to become the most powerful man in the world. I think it is a great story. I think it is one that kids will be able to relate to and certainly show that, again, if they step forward that the sky is the limit.

As MIKE said, this has great support from the State of Arkansas, great support from our congressional delegation, and then also from our Governor, Governor Huckabee, that we would like to do what President Clinton did in the future, also from Hope, and he was very, very supportive as the letter indicates.

Again, I speak in strong support of this bill and I urge its adoption.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CAPITO). The gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) has 10 minutes remaining.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CARDOZA).

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of H.R. 4192, to designate the birthplace of our 42nd President, William Jefferson Clinton, as a national historic site and a unit of the National Park System.

Currently, the Clinton birthplace home is owned and operated by a non-profit Clinton birthplace foundation. While they are doing an excellent job of maintaining this site for the public viewing and educational purposes, by becoming part of the National Park System the Clinton birthplace will now be able to take full advantage of the National Park Service's vast resources.

As a member of the Committee on Resources and at Mr. ROSS' request, I have been down to southwest Arkansas to see the Clinton birthplace for myself, and I can personally attest to the great pride that fellow Arkansans feel for this site.

Not only is Mr. William Jefferson Clinton a source of pride for the folks in his home State of Arkansas, but he is also a representative of the symbol of hope for millions of both Americans and those throughout the world who have seen his work. And you just need to tour the Clinton library to see the respect he received throughout the globe by the tributes housed at the library.

I believe every Presidential birthplace should be preserved and protected as part of our Nation's history regardless of political party.

I would like to also recognize that Speaker HASTERT and Chairman POMBO have brought this bill to the floor. And I want to commend them for doing so in a nonpartisan manner, not treating this issue as a political football, but one of worthy legislation that deserves our support.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4192.

□ 1100

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER), my colleague.

Mr. SNYDER. Madam Speaker, it is starting to be a pattern here of the Arkansans lining up here in support of

this bill, both Republican and Democrat, but it is the kind of bill that in any State we would all do the same thing, Republican or Democrat, to preserve this kind of a historic place.

Obviously, we are all very much aware that during his time in office President Clinton was a controversial figure. Any President is these days, but what we are talking about is preserving the childhood home, the birthplace home, of this President.

As a person who is the child of a single-parent household, I think it is important that we enrich those sites that have been preserved so this story can be told also, that no longer are our Presidents, like Abraham Lincoln, reading by firelight because there was no electricity in those days, but in this modern era that any child in America, regardless of background, can rise above that background, take those values that he learns and, regardless of party affiliation, go on to achieve great things in this country.

So I think this is very important. I am very much appreciative of Mr. HASTERT and Mr. POMBO for allowing this bill to come to the floor. Our Republican Governor, Governor Huckabee, is also supportive. And also, thanks today to the people of Hope who have kept this site in a state of suspended animation and preserved it while their Federal Government catches up with them in recognizing the significance of preserving and maintaining for all time this modest home.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. KELLER), my friend.

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time, and I just want to say I intend to vote for this. I think it is worthy of being designated as an historic site.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. KELLER. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

As I said before, my decision to call for a recorded vote is based on the future of our country and the fact that we need to have the information out there about Mr. Clinton's involvement in the Dubai port, the whole issue.

It is about hope, certainly about Hope, Arkansas. I hope to vote for this bill. I had hoped to vote for the bill because I had hoped that Mr. Clinton would do the right thing and register as a foreign agent. That not happening is the reason why I am objecting to the bill at this time.

I also believe that we need to preserve birthplaces of our Presidents, and had we had enough time, I just would have asked the leadership to postpone this vote. I wanted to vote for this bill, but the more information that comes

out about the millions of dollars that have been paid by the UAE to Mr. Clinton just gives many Americans the lack of hope for our security. That is exactly why I am going to call for the yeas and nays.

It is not against President Clinton. It is not against him, but rather, I wish we had more time so that the public would know exactly how involved he was in what that million dollars bought when it came to the Dubai port issue.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This bill, H.R. 4192, would give the home most closely associated with the 42nd President of the United States the designation that other Presidents have had. It is about naming this boyhood home as a national historic site. It is not about policy, and in 2002, Members on both sides of the aisle, regardless of any disagreements they may have had over any of President Reagan's policies, came together and wholeheartedly supported the designation of the Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home as a national historic site.

In his Presidency, William Jefferson Clinton gave many Americans who were at that time left behind and left out and left on the fringes of American society reasons to hope. It is fitting that we recognize his 8 years of service to this country as our President and designate his home in Hope, Arkansas, as the Clinton Boyhood Home National Historic Site.

I would urge all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill, as we have supported so many others for Presidents in the past.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I appreciate my colleagues across the aisle. You are right, this is not a partisan issue when we are talking about the birthplace of a President. Frankly, here I am making the motion, and I never voted for President Clinton. I was not a big fan of President Clinton, but you are right, also: he came from extraordinary circumstances and rose to the highest position in this country.

I mean, he and I apparently had very different lifestyles growing up. I never consumed a drop of alcohol, and when I was underage, I never not only did not inhale, I never smoked.

There are so many things different in our backgrounds, and he ought to be an inspiration to every child out there, whether leaning toward being Republican or Democrat. That President Bill Clinton, with the things that he had in his background, could reach the Nation's highest office. I mean, any of you should know that it is not out of your reach either. It is extraordinary what he accomplished.

But there is an old political adage that says, democracy ensures that a people govern no better than they de-

serve. In 1992 and 1996, whether any of us like it or not, America deserved Bill Clinton, and that is who we elected. It is now a fact he has been a President. It is now a fact that his birthplace should be a historical site, and I understand the concerns of the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE), my friend. Maybe there will be a room dedicated to all the money made from the UAE, but that is someone else's determination.

The fact is it is a historical place. It deserves that designation, and, hopefully, people will be inspired for years to come that this is America. It does not matter what your background is; you can rise to the highest office in the land, and you should be inspired by that.

For that reason, I would urge the passage of this bill.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CAPITO). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4192.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The yeas and nays are requested. All those in favor of taking this vote by the yeas and nays will rise and remain standing until counted. A sufficient number having arisen, the yeas and nays are ordered.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I do not see a sufficient number standing.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Constitution, one-fifth of those present is a sufficient number.

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I only see one Member standing on this motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair's count is not subject to question, and the Chair observed a sufficient number.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

CHILDREN'S SAFETY AND VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION ACT OF 2006

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4472) to protect children, to secure the safety of judges,